

(05.1130 Pm/Hamborsky)

October 4, 1926.

My dear Mr. Pfeiffer:-

On my return home Saturday, I find your letter asking me about the Rev. Paul Hamborsky.

At the time of our "Hungarian Affiliation" Mr. Hamborsky was the pastor of the Hungarian Reformed Church in New Brunswick, and apparently, was very keen for the Affiliation. This church did not actually come into the Affiliation until somewhat later, and Hamborsky's connection with the church had been dissolved before that time.

One of the reasons for his relinquishing the pastorate of the church, as I discovered, was an unfortunate habit of intemperance, which, though not known to me from my own personal knowledge or observation, I was informed of from a number of reliable sources and apparently was a matter pretty widely known in New Brunswick.

A date was set for Mr. Hamborsky's confirmation at a time when some other Hungarian ministers were to be confirmed, but he did not turn up, owing to "illness". I am inclined to think that this "illness" was an euphemism.

Another factor in connection with Mr. Hamborsky were financial irregularities in the matter of his payment of debts. I settled for some of his debts with a member of his congregation. At the time I felt that I was justified in doing so, but since then I have come to believe that he was not quite financially straight. I think the chances are that a great deal of local evidence might be forthcoming on both these counts.

If I can give you any further information, or you wish any details or dates, I think I will be able to furnish them.

We are all enormously concerned with this case. I am on the whole rather glad that it is going to come to trial as I suppose that is the only way in which Mrs. Hall's innocence in the matter can be fully and entirely established. Unfortunately, even being acquitted of a murder charge always leaves a suspicion of guilt in the minds of a great many people who only know what they see in the papers, and what they see in the papers is certainly plenty, but the bulk of it seems to be merely wild surmise.

With all good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) PAUL MATTHEWS